

BLM-Oregon/Washington Sage-grouse Conservation Efforts

The BLM-Oregon/Washington State Office has issued formal guidance (via Instruction Memoranda) to field units to maintain consistency with the State's recommendations for constructing wind energy grids in sage-grouse habitat. The BLM was also a partner in the 2005 Oregon Sage-grouse Conservation Strategy developed in collaboration with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and other partners. This strategy will be updated as necessary, including the potential identification of core sage-grouse habitat through the use of a variety of ecoregional assessments. Through our Healthy Lands program, the BLM conducts large-scale juniper treatments to reduce the occurrence of invasive juniper and improve the overall herbaceous composition in sage-grouse habitat.

The BLM-Oregon State Office is also participating in the development of a Memorandum of Understanding with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and ODFW to promote sage-grouse conservation. BLM-OR/WA has formed a technical work group to keep field units informed of the latest research findings and to help guide the application of this science to sagebrush restoration efforts. The BLM is also finalizing maps that identify different levels of potential resource conflicts to assist in identifying areas for potential renewable energy development.

